

SIGMA

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1949-

1950

1st issue

SIGNS

Highway of Happiness

OPPORTUNITY

TED LESLIE
MEMORIAL
FUND

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ACTIVITIES

REHABILITATION

FREDERICK H. THAYER

~~PART~~

HIGHER EDUCATION

ADMINISTRATION



Dear Member,

A little over a year ago the future of Delta Sigma Omicron, and the program and principles for which it stands, were delicately balanced between a new lease on life and oblivion. Conditions over which we had no control had made necessary the "Great Trek" from the security of Galesburg to the uncertainties of the main campus. Many of us had misgivings at the time. We were equipped with a program, but it was a program that had been planned for special, and ideal conditions. Here at Champaign-Urbana, we were faced with something altogether new. In these surroundings our plan was an untried quantity. We were the first group of our kind ever to attempt a mass program of educational and social rehabilitation on the campus of a major University.

That we succeeded in our attempt is evident today.

What are some of the things that went into this success of ours? They are as many as they are varied. Primarily, however, grew out of the efforts of people, both in and out of our organization, who believed in the vast possibilities of our program. These people understood and appreciated the long range potentialities of what we were doing. They saw in our program a positive plan of action designed to elevate all those who are physically handicapped from the position of social burdens to that of social assets. And seeing they acted, and their actions add up to our everlasting benefit.

I think it fitting that each of us pay silent tribute to our outgoing Executive Committee, to Tim Nugent, to Dr. Bone, and the staff of the Division of Special Services, and to all of the many other groups and individuals who contributed time, effort, and money in our behalf. Above all, we should remember the assistance and encouragement that we received from the authorities of the University of Illinois.

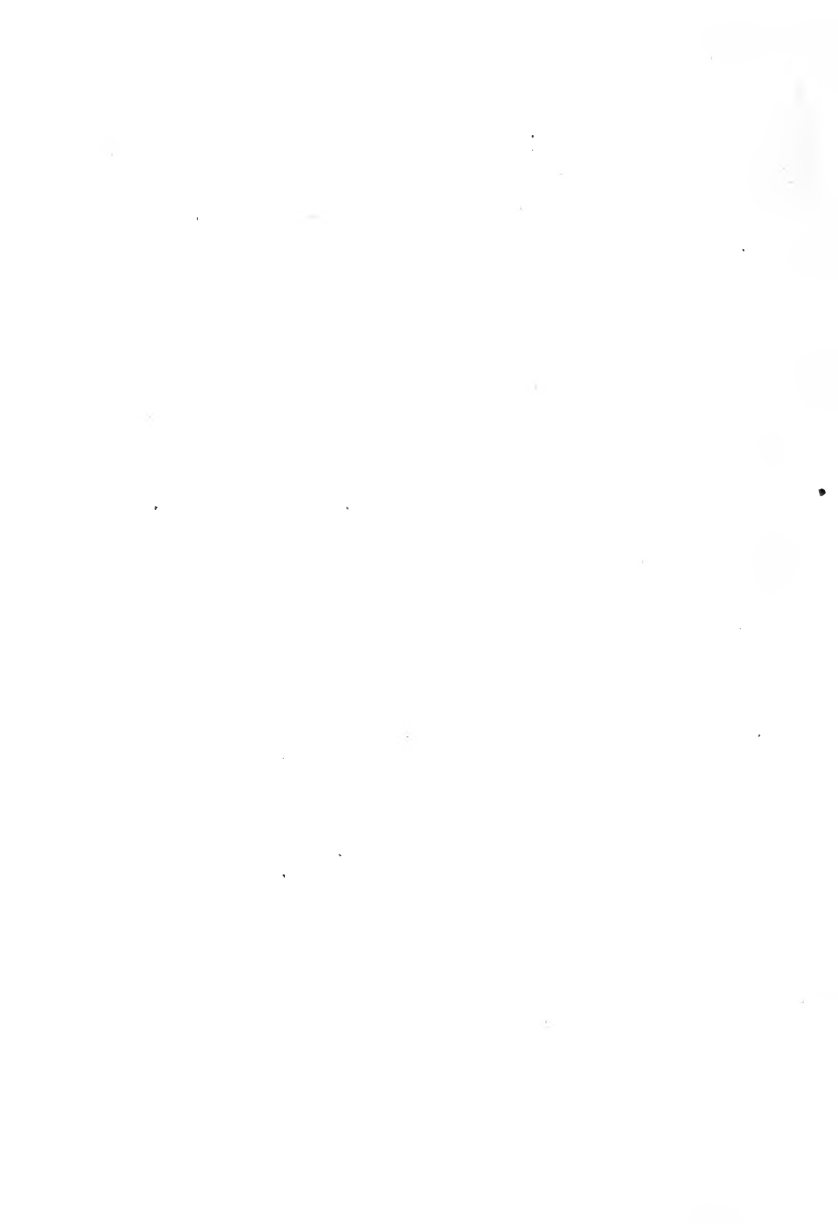
In the year to come it will be the aim of your new Executive Committee to insure the continued, smooth functioning of the group and its many activities. We will give the best that is in us toward the perpetuation of group welfare. Beyond that we can promise nothing. The course we follow will depend largely on the collective interests of the members. We plan no revolutionary changes or innovations. As we see it, our duty to the membership lies in strengthening and extending our present program.

With the support of the membership we hope to be able to spread our "Idea" to colleges and universities throughout the country. We believe that we have something worthwhile, and we want to share it with others.

How far we go toward accomplishing our mission depends entirely on the amount of co-operation shown by you, the individual member. Delta Sigma Omicron is an association of individuals. The Executive Board, and the committees constitutionally appointed by the Executive Board, will be powerless to carry out any kind of program unless that program is actively supported by at least a majority of the membership. You can make a contribution of inestimable value to the group and to yourself by participating actively at meetings and at all scheduled functions of the group.

Galesburg and the period of transition are behind us. Before us lies a future that will be good or bad in direct proportion to your individual contribution. A little constructive thought and effort on your part can favorably influence the future of all of us.

LYSANDER THOMPSON



BRIEF HISTORY OF DELTA SIGMA OMIKRON

The Corrective Therapy program at the former Galesburg Undergraduate Division, University of Illinois, Galesburg, Illinois, could be called the mother of Delta Sigma Omicron. The need for more than a physical rehabilitation program was recognized by Mr. Nugent, Director of the rehabilitation program, early during the fall semester of 1948. Through the aid and guidance of Mr. Nugent, the D.S.O. became organized with thirteen members.

In the spring semester of 1949, nine more members were added, seven of whom were wheelchair students. At this time, the club became incorporated under the Illinois "not for profit" State Laws of Incorporation. During this same semester, the D.S.O. sponsored the First National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament with the proceeds being contributed to the National Paraplegic Research Foundation. At this time, the National Wheelchair Basketball Association was originated.

The end of the spring semester of 1949 marked the end of the Galesburg Division. However, the University of Illinois made accommodations at the main campus at Champaign-Urbana for the wheelchair students. Ramps were built leading into Lincoln Hall, Gregory Hall, Moyes Laboratory, the Natural History Building, the Library, the Union Building, and the Coffee House. Two buildings in the Parade Ground Units were adapted for living quarters for the single men. Married paraplegics were accommodated in Stadium Terrace. Parking facilities were made available, and classes were re-arranged where it was necessary.

In the move to this new location, the D.S.O., Alpha Chapter, lost five members who picked other schools to attend, but new members were soon added bringing the total membership to twenty-two. Here, baseball and football were added to the other major sports, basketball and bowling. The results of these new ventures are extremely satisfying.

Participation in the well-rounded Rehabilitation Program was, as always, on a voluntary basis. One of the rehabilitational functions, the basketball team, continued their achievements. They took second place in the National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament this year, one place ahead of last year. They are rated (by themselves) as first next year.

The D.S.O. has made many strides forward, but at the same time, it has suffered the supreme loss of two outstanding members, the deaths of Ted Lesley on January 7, 1950, and Harold Scharper on June 7, 1950.

Our advisor, Tim Nugent, was unable to submit his desired report because of other commitments at the time of publication. This is also true of the National President, Bill Holloway. This is the first of what we hope will be an annual publication.

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D.S.O. HIGHLIGHTS OF '49-'50

When the D.S.O. came to the Urbana campus in the fall of 1949, it was just a pint-sized organization among king-sized groups. Some of the members felt lost, but this feeling was soon overshadowed by the feeling of satisfaction gained from participation in current activities. So that these activities could be recorded, to show the progress made and to convey to the public and other disabled that such things could be done, the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity presented us with a movie camera. The camera has already been put to good use recording the actions of fellow members, which in some of the scenes would even scare Frankenstein's Mother.

The camera recorded the first game of wheelchair football which was played October 22, 1949, with the "Blues" winning. In the last of the three game series which the "Blues" won, the "Whites" fought bravely to win but were pushed to defeat by a 14 to 7 score. However, the "Whites" still remained undaunted, vowing to partake in sweet revenge next season.

In the lull between the football and basketball season, a get-acquainted banquet was held with several notables present. Everyone was astonished with the performance by Jo Ann Makris on her harp. Several would still like to hear her play the "Bumble Boogie."

The basketball season opened with a big bang January 12 at West Allis, Wisconsin, when the Gizz Kids beat the Allis Chalmers pro team by a score of 40-12. They stretched this into a 3 game winning streak, only to be stopped by the St. Louis Rams in an exciting 29-26 game. For the remainder of the season, the Gizz Kids easily rolled over their other 8 opponents.

They went to the National Wheelchair Basketball Association tournament in Hannibal, Mo., April 14, with the idea of coming back with the "BIG" trophy. The idea stuck with them

until the last 35 seconds of a nerve-wrecking, point for point final game with the St. Louis Rams when Ralph Walker of the Rams sunk a clincher to tip the scoreboard to a 24-22 final score giving the first place trophy to the Rams. The sentiment of the whole group was reflected by this remark of Coach "Red" Nugent, "This trophy will have to do until next year when we'll trade it for the first place trophy."

Gizz Kids who were nominated for The All American Wheelchair team were John Prince (unanimous choice), Jack Chase, John Makris, and Don Swift. Jack Chase was high scorer of the season with 150 total points--an average of 15 points per game.

While all this basketball was taking place, the bowling leagues were in full swing. In the League of Wheels, the setters won tops for both sessions. Jack Chase of the Squatters took individual honors the first session with a 100.5 average, and Don Swift got the berth for the second session with a 114.2 average. The Stompers stole the top spot in the League of Struts for both sessions. Frank Deyo of the Stompers was in front with a 137.5 average for the first session and a 149.3 average for the second session.

In the League of Smiles, the sad sacks were first for both sessions. Tim Nugent collected top honors the first session with a 123.9 average, but let Carol Scharper take over with a 152.3 average in the second session. Hal Scharper came through with a 152 game for high game in League of Wheels. The 213 game of Frank Deyo's took top honors in the League of Struts and the 165 game of Carol Scharper captured top spot in the League of Smiles.

After the bowling flourish came an attempt at wheelchair softball. In the last organized game with Delta Tau Delta, Don Swift went all the way on the mound in a rugged nine inning game that found the Gizz Kids on the short



D.S.O. HIGHLIGHTS OF '49-'50 (Continued)

end of a 10-11 score. John Makris and John Prince both homered to tie the game in the seventh and eighth innings.

The annual picnic was held May 20, at the Urbana Sanitation Park. A good time was had by all those attending, thanks to John Prince and his committee. Someone brought up the fact that for once the food and drink outlasted the participants.

A memorial scholarship was founded by the organization honoring the late Ted Leslie who passed away January 7, 1950---a fitting memorial for such a persevering member. Ted was one member who put everything he had into what he undertook and did it to the best of his advantage.

The unexpected death of Harold Scharper on June 7, 1950, was certainly a blow to each individual member. Hal was indeed a great asset to the group and his loss cannot help but be evident. Our sympathies are with Carol, his wife, who was devoted to him.

Several members decided to take the big step in the near future, Don Swift surprised all by committing himself to be married on July 8, to Joan Hansen. Humphrey plans to get married also this summer. The lucky (?) girl is Hattie Felt. Harris Hjelter and Shirley Sayers will probably wait till fall before taking the vows, though.

The new faces that will probably be seen in D.S.O. activities next year will include those of Roland Wise, a threat to Crigger's 4.999 average; Salo Robban, a great admirer of be-bop (?); Glenn Rouse, like's getting his picture in any newspaper, especially the News Gazette; Lula Jean Kussart, will add more beauty to the campus and brighten activities.

The highlights of the past year were so numerous that all of them could never be recorded. Only the highest of these highlights can be mentioned.

NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Frank Deyo, Chairman; Tim Nugent, Secretary; Paul Smoot, Member; Al Oelschlegel, Member; Harold Scharper, Member, Deceased.

NATIONAL OFFICERS

Bill Holloway, President; Wayne Lemberg, Vice-President; Al Oelschlegel, Treasurer; Les Blankenship, Secretary.

ALPHA CHAPTER OFFICERS

Lysander Thompson, President; John Storer, Vice-President; Ronald Smoot, Secretary; Donald Swift, Treasurer.

The chicken dinner after our football game and after varsity game. One of many things that the D.S.O. has received from the Smoots'.

The first time we bowled--we had enough sandbags propped around the chairs to put up a barricade against any army.

Joe LoPresti--high game of 5 the first time he bowled. However, after 2½ months he hit 123.

Being confused and calling Don's Sunday date by the name of his Saturday date. And Glancy lowered the boom.

Being swept off my feet by "Harry S." on my first trip to Galesburg. His spirit and enthusiasm were unsurmountable. I also remember when he pointed to his leg and said, "I haven't got any 'Biceps'."

Our first wheelchair game against the Faculty. 'Steps' Nugent made half their points, 4, and fatigued the referee with the number of times he traveled. A put up job. He coached both teams.

The questions - oh, yes - and the answers when it was rumored that a 'lucious' Southern Belle in a wheelchair was to join us.

Our first small get-togethers in the C. T. rooms of Health Center. The sessions--socialism--Harry vs. Anyism ala Homer Lee.

The first letter we read at the beginning of the program. From out of the dark plenty of room for expansion.

Our first big wheelchair game--Galesburg All Stars 20, Gizz Kids 40.

Our first trip and competition against another wheelchair team. Those Hannibal Rockets looked mighty good. We were a bit frightened but came out on the long end. Gosh, they treated us fine as they always have since.

The interests and patience of Dr. Bone in the transfer of our program to the main campus.

The educational wire recordings made in station 321 Parade Ground Units. The administration would have enjoyed these.

Tom Luttier got stuck on his first arrival to Galesburg--I can hear him yet.

The first two or three letters that Tim received from John Storer. Tim was preparing to carry John to all his classes.

Our first impression of that smooth playing Kansas City team. "Boy, if we could play like that."

The only man who could sink nine out of ten baskets while laying on his back. That was Harold Drake.

The first and probably the last time that Tim was out-talked.....and by a three-year old kid.

The conversations about a certain Rhetoric teacher between Harris Hjeltner and Joe LoPresti.

A man by the name of Frank who needs a boxing glove to protect his.....from injury.

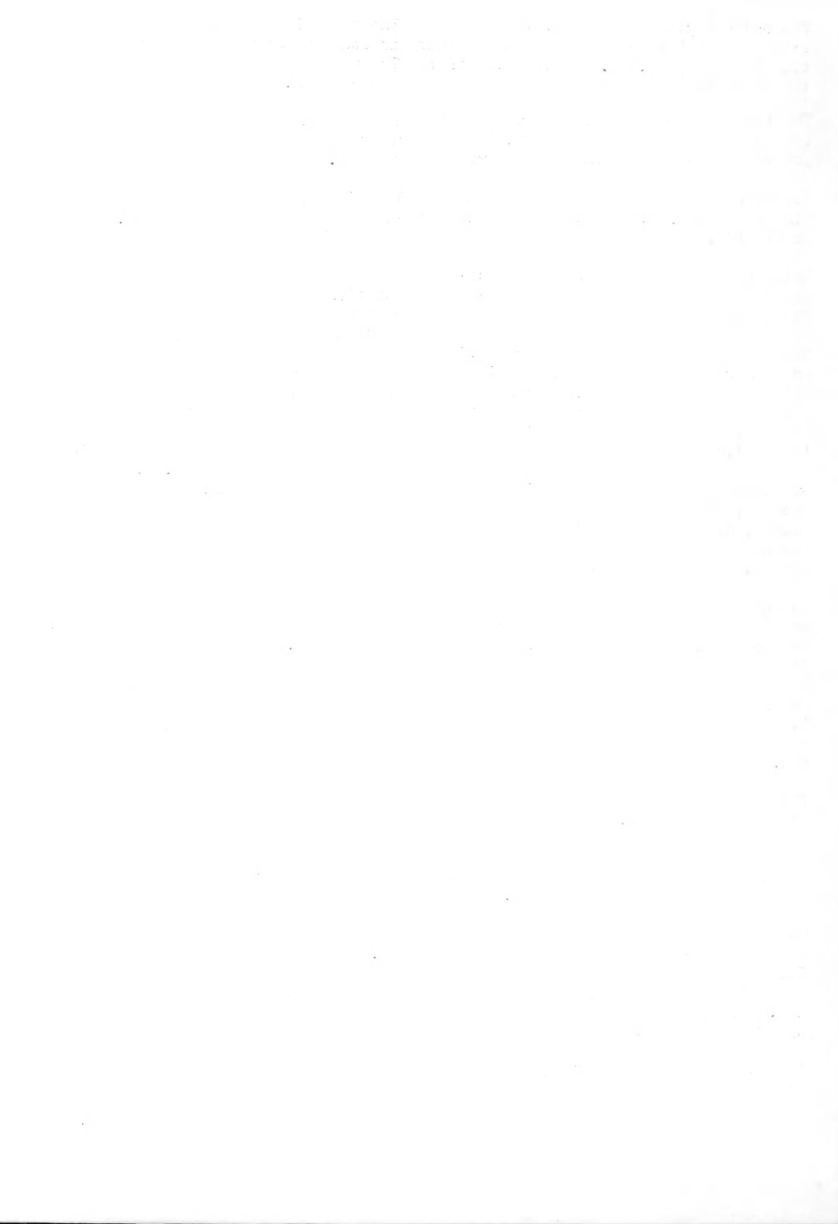
Pleasingly plump, Dr. Lawder, "Can I tell a medical joke here?" Always for us. How he sometimes wondered about having two redheads on his staff. Comes the Revolution!

The success of the First National Wheelchair Basketball Tournament and the origination of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association. Realization of their continuance. The celebrations were fun even though we took third.

Mr. John Lakris who changed the shape of his head while trying to balance on rear wheels.

The local recognized officials of the N.A.B.A., Mr. Sandy Foxman, Mr. Duane Haas, and Mr. Donald Smoot. Excellent officiating?

In Galesburg a girl was campused. Wonder who was responsible, Don?



1. Shirley Bayers--Typical coed--came to college to find a man.
2. Hal Scharrer--Created his own following by his frequent soap box oratories.
3. Jack Chase--The Butcher--studying meat carving--in Physiology 104.
4. John Storer--The Mad Lover of Third Street--Why does he park with his girls a block or two from FGU? Too cheap to drive out to the woods?
5. Ray Grigger--Some men are fast--others are stupid.
6. Les Blankenship--Operator of the Danville-Champaign Bus Service.
7. Ron Jacob--"The Agitator." He'll probably take a vacation in Canada this summer--without his car.
8. John Prince--An ambitious scholar. Spends 16 hours a day in the library--comes back frustrated!
9. Tom Luttier--No wonder Red is hitting such a high average. He spends more time in the drive between Crog Hall and Lincoln Hall than he does in either building. Gets his big inspiration there.
10. Don Swift--A Lover Man who came to the end of the road this semester.
11. Bob Anderson--His boy, Jimmie, founded the Grigger-Scharper Disabled Vets Fund among local children. With 5¢ in the fund, Grigger-Scharper are fighting over the other penny.
12. John Makris--Allowed to join the D.S.O. even though he was a Marine.
13. Al Oelschlagel--Humphrey didn't take it seriously when they closed Galesburg. He's spent most of his time there this semester.
14. Tin Nugent--Won out over the fierce opposition of the subversive Radical Party at las election--still our Flitz Kid.
15. Bill Holloway--Studying abnormal psychology--"It takes one to catch one."
16. Bob Waller--The madman of the highways. Disqualified for the Indianapolis "500" for reckless driving.
17. Angie Tsevelikos--36 hours of studying on chem--and a "C". Too many parties.
18. Gy Thompson--The Winston Churchill of D.S.O. Strong, eloquent. Curve setter.
19. George Jungels--The only one who can legally violate the portable radio rule in the stadium.
20. Frank Dey--"Frank the Fix", alias Louis Drophicle--buying a new "CC" to make sure he catches those ambulances.
21. Darryl Schuh--The poor man's Cecil B. DeMille. Just try and get a negative from him.



ALPHA CHAPTER - DELTA SIGMA OMIKRON, INC.

Financial Statement

For the Period Ending June 1, 1950

ASSETS	LIABILITIES
Cash on Hand March 1, 1950	Bob Weller-Expenses \$ 6.00
	Don Townsend-Services 3.30
	Chi Wheelchair Co. 5.10
Net Basketball Returns:	Roosevelt Chair Co. 9.94
	Stewart Machine Co. 2.10
Armstrong Game 52.00	R & R Machine Co. 1.35
Covington Game 37.01	Roth Hardware 6.07
St. Joseph Game 68.50	Jos. Kuhn & Co. 4.03
Whitefish Bay Game <u>169.10</u> 326.61	Urbana High School 10.50
	Sandy Foxton-Official 15.00
Net Club Dues:	Karl Lohmann 35.25
Second Semester 17.00	Fairchild Camera 2.00
	Greenwood Camera 56.88
Credit Allowed	Corporation Fee 2.00
White-Line Laundry 1.96	Safety Lock .90
	Ted Lesley Flowers 4.59
	Repair Kit Pools 1.97
	D.S.O. Filing Kit 1.43
	D.S.O. Picnic 30.50
	Travel Reimbursement 180.25
	N.W.B.A. Entrance Fee 10.00
	N.W.B.A. Membership Fee 25.00
	Fairchild Camera 15.77
	Fairchild Camera (cr) 50.00
	Durst Cycle Shop 31.70
	Postage .36
	White-Line Laundry 33.75
	National D.S.O. Dues <u>63.95</u>
	Net Worth: 631.09
	21.00
	<u>652.09</u>

At the present time, there is a prepaid amount of \$18.48 at the Fairchild Camera Shop in Champaign. The balance on hand on June 1, 1950, is carried in the University Treasury.

The Alpha Chapter of Delta Sigma Omicron enjoyed its best year financially since its beginning in 1948. May we continue to enjoy and add to that success during the coming year.

Don Swift, Treasurer
Alpha Chapter
Delta Sigma Omicron



DELTA SIGMA OMICRON
National Headquarters

Financial Statement
For the Period Ending June 1, 1950

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash on Hand		None	
June 1, 1950	\$ 83.95		
		NET WORTH	
Ted Lesley Memorial Fund	<u>231.76</u>	Net Worth	<u>315.71</u>
	<u>315.71</u>		<u>315.71</u>

This is the present financial condition of DELTA SIGMA OMICRON, INC.,
as of June 1, 1950.

Alfred Oelschlegel, Treasurer of
Delta Sigma Omicron, Inc.

